

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 28-32 are pending in the application, with claim 28 being the sole independent claim. No claims are sought to be cancelled and no new claims are sought to be added. Claims 29-32 and the specification have been amended herein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Description of the Invention

The Examiner has indicated that no substitute specification was submitted along with the preliminary amendment. We include herewith a copy of the Substitute Specification and Abstract and the marked up version previously filed on September 30, 2003. We also included a copy of our postcard date stamped September 30, 2003 showing that a substitute specification and marked up copy of substitute specification were submitted at that time. Applicants respectfully request entry of the changes to the specification.

Objection to the Oath or Declaration

The Examiner has objected to the Declaration filed with the Application because it does not identify the citizenship of each inventor. Applicants respectfully request that this objection be held in abeyance until allowance of the claims.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the Figure 8 because it does not show how the mower unit 9 is connected to the vehicle 1. Applicants submit herewith a replacement figure 8, including this feature. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this objection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as depending from a cancelled claim. Applicants have amended claims 29-32 to depend directly or indirectly from claim 28. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Other Matters

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgement of the allowable subject matter of claim 28.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be

withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Rae Lynn P. Guest
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 53,482

Date: 10/20/2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

295669_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ABEND *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/673,377

Filed: September 30, 2003

For: **Driving Apparatus for Speed
Changing and Steering of a Vehicle**

Confirmation No.: 4364

Art Unit: 3616

Examiner: Joselynn Y. Sliteris

Atty. Docket: 0666.1110004/TGD/RPG

Notice to Draftsperson: Submission of Amended Drawing

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached is one drawing, containing an amendment to Figure 8. The changes add no new matter to this application. Applicants request that the Examiner approve and enter the amended drawing and provide official communication of such approval.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Rae Lynn P. Guest
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 53,482

Date: October 20, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

324904_1.DOC